

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA

BOARD OF DENTISTRY

In the Matter of
Michael J. Bussa, D.D.S.
License No. D9268

**STIPULATION AND
CONSENT ORDER**

STIPULATION

Michael J. Bussa, D.D.S. ("Licensee") and the Minnesota Board of Dentistry's Complaint Committee ("Committee") composed of Board members Joan Sheppard, D.D.S., David Linde, D.D.S., Kristin Heebner, J.D., and Teri Youngdahl, L.D.A., agree the above-referenced matter may be resolved without trial of any issue or fact as follows:

I.

JURISDICTION

1. The Minnesota Board of Dentistry ("Board") is authorized pursuant to Minn. Stat. ch. 150A, § 214.10, and § 214.103 to license and regulate dentists and to take disciplinary action when appropriate.

2. Licensee holds a license to practice dentistry in the State of Minnesota from the Board and is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board with respect to the matters referred to in this Stipulation and Consent Order.

II.

BACKGROUND

3. By letter dated December 6, 2010, the Board requested Licensee's written response to allegations regarding a complaint that was filed against Licensee regarding federal income tax evasion. On January 11, 2011, the Board received Licensee's written response from his attorney, Richard H. Kyle, Jr. Following a thorough review of all available information, the

Committee determined the matter could be resolved by mail with a Stipulation and Consent Order.

4. Licensee has retained Richard H. Kyle, Jr., Esq. of Fredrikson & Byron, P.A., 200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-1425. Daphne A. Lundstrom, Assistant Attorney General, represents the Committee in this matter.

III.

FACTS

5. The parties agree this Stipulation and Consent Order is based upon the following facts:

Admission of Guilt to Felony Charge

a. On December 1, 2010, before the United States District Court in St. Paul, Minnesota, Licensee pled guilty to a felony charge of one count of willful evasion of tax. In his plea agreement, Licensee admitted that for tax years 2003 to 2005 he failed to pay \$76,695 in federal income taxes. Licensee deposited business receipts from his dental practice into his personal bank account to hide income.

IV.

LAWS

6. Licensee acknowledges the conduct described in section III. above constitutes a violation of Minn. Stat. §150A.08, subd. 1(1) (fraud or deception in connection with the practice of dentistry), Minn. Stat. §150A.08, subd. 1(2) (conviction, including a finding or verdict of guilt, an admission of guilt, or a no contest plea, in any court of a felony or gross misdemeanor reasonably related to the practice of dentistry as evidenced by a certified copy of the conviction), Minn. Stat. §150A.08, subd. 1(6) (conduct unbecoming a person licensed to practice dentistry), and justifies the disciplinary action described in section V. below.

V.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

7. The parties agree the Board may take the following disciplinary action and require compliance with the following terms, conditions, and requirements:

a. Licensee is hereby **REPRIMANDED** for the conduct referenced in section III. above.

b. Licensee shall pay to the Board a **CIVIL PENALTY** in the amount of \$5,000. Within one year from the effective date of this Order, the civil penalty shall be paid by cashier's check or money order made payable to the Minnesota Board of Dentistry and shall be delivered personally or by mail to the Minnesota Board of Dentistry, c/o Marshall Shragg, Executive Director, 2829 University Avenue S.E., Suite 450, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414.

c. Licensee shall complete the **CONDITION** placed on his license to practice dentistry in the State of Minnesota involving community service. Within one year from the effective date of this Order, Licensee shall complete twenty-five (25) hours of unpaid community service at a voluntary dental access clinic, e.g. Uptown Dental Clinic, Sharing and Caring Hands Dental Clinic, Union Gospel Dental Clinic, or other voluntary dental access clinic located in Licensee's community. Licensee shall submit to the Committee evidence of successfully completing 25 hours of service.

VI.

CONSEQUENCES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE OR ADDITIONAL VIOLATIONS

8. It is Licensee's responsibility to ensure that payment of the civil penalty is submitted to the Board on or before the due date. Failure to submit payment of the civil penalty on or before the due date is a violation of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

9. If Licensee fails to comply with or violates this Stipulation and Consent Order or it is determined Licensee has further violated Minnesota Statutes chapter 150A or Minnesota Rules chapter 3100, the Committee may, in its discretion, seek additional discipline either by initiating a contested case proceeding pursuant to Minnesota Statutes chapter 14 or by bringing the matter directly to the Board pursuant to the following procedure:

a. The Committee shall schedule a hearing before the Board. At least ten days prior to the hearing, the Committee shall mail Licensee a notice of the violation(s) alleged by the Committee. In addition, the notice shall designate the time and place of the hearing. Within seven days after the notice is mailed, Licensee shall submit a written response to the allegations. If Licensee does not submit a timely response to the Board, the allegations may be deemed admitted.

b. The Committee, in its discretion, may schedule a conference with the Licensee prior to the hearing before the Board to discuss the allegations and to attempt to resolve the allegations through the procedures of Minnesota Statutes Section 214.103, subdivision 6.

c. Prior to the hearing before the Board, the Committee and Licensee may submit affidavits and written argument in support of their positions. At the hearing, the Committee and Licensee may present oral argument. Argument shall not refer to matters outside the record. The evidentiary record shall be limited to the affidavits submitted prior to the hearing and this Stipulation and Consent Order. The Committee shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that a violation has occurred. If Licensee has failed to submit a timely response to the allegations, Licensee may not contest the allegations, but may present argument concerning the appropriateness of additional discipline. Licensee waives a hearing before an administrative law judge, discovery, cross-examination of adverse witnesses, and other procedures governing hearings pursuant to Minnesota Statutes chapter 14.

d. Licensee's correction of a violation prior to the conference, hearing or meeting of the Board may be taken into account by the Board but shall not limit the Board's authority to impose discipline for the violation. A decision by the Committee not to seek discipline when it first learns of a violation will not waive the Committee's right to later seek discipline for that violation, either alone or in combination with other violations, at any time while this order is in effect.

e. Following the hearing, the Board will deliberate confidentially. If the allegations are not proved, the Board will dismiss the allegations. If a violation is proved, the Board may impose additional discipline, including additional conditions or limitations on Licensee's practice, suspension, or revocation of Licensee's license.

f. Nothing herein shall limit the Committee's or the Board's right to temporarily suspend Licensee's license pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 150A.08, subdivision 8, based on a violation of this Stipulation and Consent Order or based on conduct of Licensee not specifically referred to herein.

VII.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

10. Within ten days of execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Licensee shall provide the Board with the names of all states in which Licensee is licensed to practice dentistry or holds any other professional or occupational license.

11. Licensee waives the contested case hearing and all other procedures before the Board to which Licensee may be entitled under the Minnesota and United States constitutions, statutes, or rules.

12. Licensee waives any claims against the Board, the Minnesota Attorney General, the State of Minnesota, and their agents, employees, and representatives related to the

investigation of the conduct herein, or the negotiation or execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order, which may otherwise be available to Licensee.

13. This Stipulation and Consent Order, the files, records, and proceedings associated with this matter shall constitute the entire record and may be reviewed by the Board in its consideration of this matter.

14. Either party may seek enforcement of this Stipulation and Consent Order in any appropriate civil court.

15. Licensee has read, understands, and agrees to this Stipulation and Consent Order and has voluntarily signed the Stipulation and Consent Order. Licensee is aware this Stipulation and Consent Order must be approved by the Board before it goes into effect. The Board may approve the Stipulation and Consent Order as proposed, approve it subject to specified change, or reject it. If the changes are acceptable to Licensee, the Stipulation and Consent Order will take effect and the order as modified will be issued. If the changes are unacceptable to Licensee or the Board rejects the Stipulation and Consent Order, it will be of no effect except as specified in the following paragraph.

16. Licensee agrees that if the Board rejects this Stipulation and Consent Order or a lesser remedy than indicated in this settlement, and this case comes again before the Board, Licensee will assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this Stipulation and Consent Order or of any records relating to it.

17. This Stipulation and Consent Order shall not limit the Board's authority to proceed against Licensee by initiating a contested case hearing or by other appropriate means on the basis of any act, conduct, or admission of Licensee which constitutes grounds for disciplinary action and which is not directly related to the specific facts and circumstances set forth in this document.

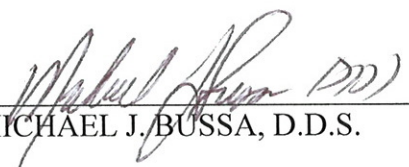
VIII.

DATA PRACTICES NOTICES

18. This Stipulation and Consent Order constitutes disciplinary action by the Board and is classified as public data pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.41, subdivision 5. Data regarding this action will be provided to data banks as required by Federal law or consistent with Board policy. While this Stipulation and Consent Order is in effect, information obtained by the Board pursuant to this Order is considered active investigative data on a licensed health professional, and as such, is classified as confidential data pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.41, subdivision 4.

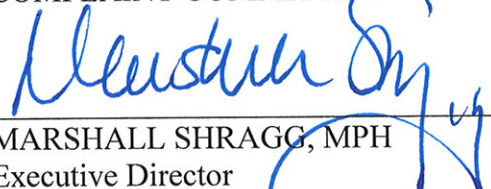
19. This Stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies this Stipulation.

LICENSEE


MICHAEL J. BUSSA, D.D.S.

By:

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE


MARSHALL SHRAGG, MPH
Executive Director

Dated: 5-23-11, 2011

Dated: MAY 26TH, 2011

ORDER

Upon consideration of the foregoing Stipulation and based upon all the files, records, and proceedings herein,

The terms of the Stipulation are approved and adopted, and the recommended disciplinary action set forth in the Stipulation is hereby issued as an Order of this Board effective this 17th day of June, 2011.

MINNESOTA BOARD
OF DENTISTRY

By: 
DAVID LINDE, D.D.S.
President